



Mid-America Theatre Conference

NEWSLETTER

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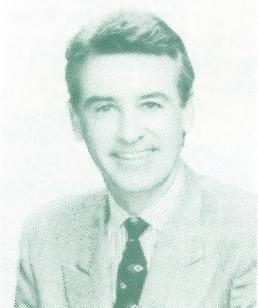
February 1991

Dear Colleagues:

In this newsletter you will find the preliminary program for our March conference. It reflects the careful screening of a fine field of proposals and a slate of exceptional offerings in all categories. I hope that you plan to come early and stay for all of the sessions in Kansas City.

Conrad Hotel
There has been some confusion over the hotel accommodations, so let me explain the arrangements. The Marriott Plaza has been sold and is now the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza. The new ownership will honor the \$69 per night rate that we negotiated on your behalf. You may contact the hotel by phoning: 800/465-4329. Identify yourself as part of MATC. They have been urged to be alert to your request, so I hope that you will find them appropriately responsive. This is an exceptional facility and suits our needs perfectly. I know you will find it comfortable.

We have arranged speakers whom I know you will find stimulating. **Mike Robe**, director of *Son of the Morning Star*, the ABC miniseries aired on February 3 and 4, will address "Theatre Training/Film Performance" at our Friday night banquet. Mr. Robe wrote and directed *Guts and Glory: The Rise and Fall of Oliver North* for CBS in 1989. The year before he was the author/director of *Murder Ordained*. He is currently at work on a new project, an adaptation of Scott Turow's *Burden of Proof*.



Mike Robe

On Sunday the featured speaker will be **Gigi Gibson Bolt**, Director, Theatre Division, New York Council on the Arts. Ms. Bolt, a member of the theatre staff at the Commission for 17 years, is a former actress. Her current responsibility includes funding for over 300 New York artistic entities, including numerous Manhattan not-for-profit theatres. She will speak on "The State of Theatre Art in New York: Not-for-Profit Projects and Prospects."

A new feature is being offered as an opening event for the conference. On Thursday night, March 14, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., we will conduct an "Administrators Workshop" for chairs, artistic directors, and other program administrators. Featured presenters will be: **Larry Clark**, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Missouri-Columbia, "The Promotion and Tenure Issues for Theatre Faculty"; **Jay Edelnant**, University of Northern Iowa, "Budgeting Productions"; **Ronald A. Willis**, University of Kansas, "The Introduction to Theatre Courses: Who Does It Serve? What Does It Contain?"

Personal letters of invitation have been sent to 90 area administrators. Our list undoubtedly contains errors and omissions, so please plan to attend if you are currently doing administrative work in our nine-state region. My apologies to those who may have been inadvertently overlooked.

Members should be reminded of the elections in May. We will need to find candidates for Vice President and Program Chair (to replace Judith Zivanovic who will assume the presidency for two years) and a Secretary-Treasurer (to replace George Glenn, who will be going to London for a year).

Yours truly,

Glenn Q. Pierce
Glenn Q. Pierce, President

Auditions

Please encourage your students to sign up for auditions. Although the registration date is now passed, a few time slots remain unfilled. Below are companies seeking actors:

American Heartland Theatre
Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre
Aven Theatrics
Bigfork Summer Playhouse
Black Hills Playhouse
Burtness Summer Theatre
Clinton Area Showboat Theatre
Emporia State University
Summer Theatre '91
Highland Summer Theatre

The Little Theatre-On the Square
Nebraska Theatre Caravan
Post Playhouse
The Santa Fe Opera
St. Croix Falls Festival Theatre
Straw Hat Players
Tecumseh!
Theatre UNI
Theatre West

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

7:00-10:00 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENT

Administrators Workshop

Glenn Q. Pierce, University of Kansas, MATC President
Issues for discussion will include promotion and tenure, budgeting, and handling of the introductory course. (7:00 p.m. Larry Clark, 8:00 p.m. Jay Edelnant, 9:00 p.m. Ronald A. Willis)

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

Session 1 — 7:30-8:45 a.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

Stage and Self-Image: Power of Stereotypes

Chair: Ron Engle, University of North Dakota
Rosemarie Bank, Kent State University
The Manly Man in Jacksonian American Theatre
Morris Meyer, Northwestern University
Containing the Cannibal: People Shows on the Midway of the 1893 Columbian World Exposition
Lynn Heberling, University of Akron
The Hegemonic Formation of Culture: Power T&A, or What Do We Do With the Drunken Soldier

Session 2 — 9:00-10:15 a.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

Power and the Legacy of Colonialism
Chair: Margaret Knapp, Arizona State University
Laurilyn J. Harris, Washington State University
Dennis Faustino, University of Minnesota
Business as Usual: Power, Politics, and Drama in the Philippines
I. Peter Ukpokodu, University of Kansas
Theatre as Socio-Political Power in Africa: Contemporary Experiments
Ilona S. Koren-Deutsch, Northwestern University
"Politics No Get Dramatic Pass Am": Nationalism in the Theatre of Wole Soyinka

DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

The Psychology of Designer/Director Collaboration: Developing a Contemporary Model for Educational Theatre
Chair: Paul Siemers, University of Minnesota
Panelists:

Paul Sannerud, University of Northern Iowa
Lin Holder, St. Cloud State University
Paul Siemers, University of Minnesota

CHILDREN'S THEATRE/CREATIVE DRAMATICS

Creative Drama/Playwriting in Shelters for the Homeless - a project of the Metropolitan Arts Council of Omaha
Doug Marr, Circle Theatre, Omaha, Nebraska

Session 3 — 10:30-11:45 a.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

Power of Theatrical Space: Physical and Metaphysical I
Chair: George D. Glenn, University of Northern Iowa
Barbara Clayton, University of Wisconsin at Madison
Kim Marra, University of Iowa
Mother Earth's Devilish Labia: Gender Ideology and Power in Medieval Hell-Mouths
Leslie Wade, Louisiana State University
Stylistic Oppression in Hedda Gabler: Box Set Suicide
Beverly Bronson Smith, Kent State University
Empowerment—Native-Born vs. Foreign-Born: A Study of Character Relationships in Early Twentieth-Century American Theatre

DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

Case Studies #1: Building the Ensemble

Chair: Cindy Phaneuf, University of Nebraska-Omaha
Egla B. Hassan, Western Illinois University

Producing Hair: Using lifestyle practices of the '60s to create a rehearsal concept for actors of the '80s

John Mayer, University of Missouri-Columbia

"I'm OK - You're OK": The Steppenwolf Psychology for Actor/Director Relationships

CHILDREN'S THEATRE/CREATIVE DRAMATICS

Non-Traditional Casting

Steve Walker, theatre critic, *The Pitch* magazine
Kansas City, Missouri

Cheryl Collins, director of Metropolitan Ebony Theatre
Kansas City, Missouri

two panel members TBA

PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

The Auditor's Tools: Presenting the Best You

Mark Nash, University of Kansas

Techniques for achieving the strongest possible response from the moment the auditioner walks through the door through monologues and cold readings to the final handshake.

Session 4 — 12:30-1:45 p.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

Power of Theatrical Space: Physical and Metaphysical II

Chair: Rosemarie Bank, Kent State University

Michal Kobialka, University of Minnesota

Theatre of Transparency:

Tadeusz Kantor's Desire to Retain the For-Gotten

Thomas A. King, Northwestern University

Power in Performing, Pleasure in Performing:

On Locating Subversion in Representational Practices

Kristin Allen, Kent State University

Ordering Chaos: History as Heterotopia

in the Ballets de Court of Louis XIII

DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

Defining Elements of the Director's Talent: Perceptual Intuition and the Realization of Histrionic Potential, and Extrapolation and the Creation of an Impression Structure

Presenters: Burnett M. Hobgood and Thomas O. Mitchell
both of the University of Illinois

These areas of investigation arise from "The Framework for Directing in the Theatre," a study of the work of director-artists in six "directing colloquiums" held at the University of Illinois and at Southern Methodist University. The topics addressed will be presented in two papers and demonstration with an opportunity for discussion.

CHILDREN'S THEATRE/CREATIVE DRAMATICS

Multicultural Programming for Young Audiences

Ric Averill, Seem-To-Be Players Inc., Lawrence, Kansas

Jeff Church, The Coterie, Kansas City, Missouri

Jeanne Klein, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas

James Larson, Emmy Gifford Children's Theater

Omaha, Nebraska

Session 5 — 2:15-3:30 p.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

Sexual Oppression and Repression

Chair: Laurilyn J. Harris, Washington State University

Donnalee Dox Kulhawy, University of Minneapolis

The Pleasure of Power: Theatrical Rape Reconsidered

Yvonne Shafer, University of Colorado-Boulder

Rachel Crothers' Power Struggle in the American Theatre

Terri Kapsalis, Northwestern University

The Pelvic Exam as Theatre:

Power, Domination, and the Silenced Spectacle

DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

The Director As People-Manager: Techniques from Other Fields

Chair: Bobbi Korner, Seattle Pacific University

All participants must be members of the Mid-America Theatre Conference and pay conference registration fees.

Membership and Registration

Mid-America Theatre Conference

Kansas City, Missouri

March 14 - 17, 1991

Name _____

Address _____

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City

State

Zip

Phone No.

Individual Membership and Conference Registration

Regular \$55
 Student \$20

Institutional Membership (includes conference registration for one person)

Large Program of 6 or more faculty \$65
 Small Program of 5 or less faculty \$55

Membership only (not conference registration)

Regular \$15
 Student \$10

Audition Fee

Students \$27.50 (after Feb. 15, \$30.00)
 Companies \$35.00

Send all registrations and inquiries to:

Glenn Q. Pierce
MATC MEMBERSHIP
356 Murphy Hall
Department of Theatre and Film
University of Kansas
Lawrence, KS 66045
913/864-3511

Please make checks payable to: "Mid-America Theatre Conference"

CONFERENCE MEALS

Friday evening Banquet (March 15) \$25.00 \$ _____ 

Mike Robe

"Theatre Training/Film Performance"

Saturday Luncheon and Program (March 16) \$16.00 \$ _____

"A Women Called Truth": Four Perspectives"

Sunday afternoon Banquet (March 17) \$25.00 \$ _____ 

Gigi Gibson Bolt

"The State of Theatre Art in New York:
Not-for-Profit Projects and Prospects"

TOTAL MEALS \$ 50.00

Please make checks payable to: "Mid-America Theatre Conference"

Contact the hotel directly to arrange room accommodations:

HOTEL RESERVATION:

Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza
4445 Main Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Guest Room Rate: \$69.00 per night

Telephone: (816) 531-3000

Toll-free number: (800) 465-4329

Zachary Bloomfield, University of Missouri-Columbia
Directorial "Impression Management"
Sherry A. Hobson, University of Missouri-Columbia
When Actors Become a Problem
Suzanne Dieckman, University of Missouri-Columbia
Teaching People-Management in Directing Class
CHILDREN'S THEATRE/CREATIVE DRAMATICS
Costuming for Multicultural Programming
Pat Melody, Haskell Indian Junior College, Lawrence, Kansas
one panel member TBA

PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

Preparing to Perform:
Tuning the Actor's Body/Voice for Creative Use
Marsha Paludan, University of Kansas
Exercises and practical suggestions to help the actor prepare body and voice for "audition performance."

Session 6 — 3:45-5:00 p.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

Issues of Power in Soviet Theatre
Chair: William Kuhlke, University of Kansas
Panelists: Samuel Marinov, University of Kansas
Felicia Londrè, University of Missouri at Kansas City
Maia Kipp, University of Kansas

DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

Bridging Culture and Gender Gaps
Chair: Clyde Ruffin, University of Missouri-Columbia
Peter Larham, San Diego State University
Interculturalism: Redefining Boundaries in the Theatre
Clyde Ruffin, University of Missouri-Columbia
Cultural Diversity in the American Theatre:
Training Directors for the Twenty-First Century
Lorraine Commeret, University of Northern Iowa
Toward a Psychology of Empowerment

CHILDREN'S THEATRE/CREATIVE DRAMATICS

Performance
Thunderbird Theater, Haskell Indian Junior College
Lawrence, Kansas

PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

Jobs and Internships: Where and How to Apply
Marci Mauilar, Kansas State University
Techniques to promote professional development, including writing cover letters and résumés, headshots and videotape "auditions," and where and how to apply for professional internships.

6:00-9:00 EVENING BANQUET

Mike Robe: *Theatre Training/Film Performance*

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

Session 7 — 8:00-8:50 a.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

Music Has Charms to Soothe a Savage Beast?
Chair: John Gronbeck-Tedesco, University of Kansas
Charles M. Berg, University of Kansas
Music on the Silent Set
Jeffrey Smart, University of Missouri-Columbia
Ziegfeld and Comstock and Boulton and Kern:
How Two Producers Shaped Two Book Musicals

Session 8 — 9:00-10:15 a.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

Politics of Power
Chair: Rebecca Hilliker, University of Wyoming
Michael Quinn, University of Washington
Redevelopment: Vaclav Havel's Allegory of Government
Ian MacLennan, Kent State University
Transforming and Shifting Power: Michael Bogdanov's Productions of English Renaissance Drama

Ronald H. Wainscott, University of Nebraska
The Red Dawn to Red Rust: The Russian Revolution and Visions of Shifting Political Power in Post-World War I American Theatre

DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

Approaches to Creativity
Chair: Mike McElhaney, Southwest Missouri State University
John J. Kelly, Central Methodist College
Stage Direction and the Psychology of Creativity
Sam Claussen, Missouri Southern State College
Journalizing for Character Development

Robert W. Dillon Jr., Southeast Missouri State University
Theatre Zen: A Psychology for Directors and Actors
(A related workshop is scheduled during Sessions 8 and 9.)

CHILDREN'S THEATRE/CREATIVE DRAMATICS

Creative Drama and Ethnic Emphasis
Tracy Iwersen, Emmy Gifford Children's Theater
Omaha Nebraska

Carole Waterman, Creche Child Care Center, Omaha, Nebraska

Session 9 — 10:30-11:45 a.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

Power and Theatrical Production
Chair: Yvonne Shafer, University of Colorado-Boulder
Sam Abel, Dartmouth College
The Power of Death: The Politics of Genre, Sexuality, and Opera in The Lisbon Traviata

Barry Witham, University of Washington
The Cradle Will Rock

Joel H. Kaplan, University of British Columbia
A Puppet's Power: George Alexander, Clement Scott, and the Replotting of Lady Windermere's Fan

DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

The Director As Psychologist: Theatre or Therapy?
Chair: Felicia Londrè, University of Missouri-Kansas City
Paul Mrozka, University of New Hampshire

Jonathan Miller and Long Day's Journey into Night: The Psychology of Directing an American Classic
Richard Klepac, University of Missouri-Columbia

The Director as Psychodramatist
Glenn Q. Pierce, University of Kansas
Transactional Systems Out of Whack: Masculine/Feminine Power Ploys

CHILDREN'S THEATRE/CREATIVE DRAMATICS

The King's Daughters - an Afrikan folk tale
performed by students from Malone Community Center, Lincoln, Nebraska

PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

Vocal Challenges and Emotional Release
Lisbeth Roman, free-lance vocal coach, Kansas City, Missouri
Techniques for laughing, crying, screaming; other extraordinary vocal situations. (Wear comfortable clothing.)

12 noon-1:00 p.m. LUNCHEON and PROGRAM

"A Woman Called Truth": Four Perspectives
Sandy Asher, playwright; Margaret Pierson-Bates, performer; Laura Partridge Needs, director; Brian Shaw, director

Session 10 — 1:30-2:45 p.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

International Issues of Political Power
Chair: Elizabeth C. Ramirez, University of Arizona
Barbara Korner, Pacific Lutheran University
Political Power: Vaclav Havel's Transformation of Artistic Principles to Political Realities
Judy Oliva, Northwestern University
Contemporary British Female Dramatists
Theatricalizing Political Power
Jerry Dickey, University of Arizona
A New Orestes: Lessons in Power from Athol Fugard

DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

Case Studies #2: *The Family Play*

Chair: Joyce Cavarozzi, Wichita State University
Lynn-Steven Johanson, Western Illinois University

The Director as a Performance Designer: An Approach to Chekhov's Uncle Vanya

Mira Wiegmann, Concordia College

The Director as Social Psychologist and the Role of Cultural Artifacts in All My Sons

Becky B. Prophet, Agnes Scott College
Antigone and Family: Beyond Oedipus

CHILDREN'S THEATRE/CREATIVE DRAMATICS

2 p.m., Featured Performance

Amelia Lives by Laura Annwyn Shamas

This one-woman show, directed by Jeff Church, will be performed at The Coterie, 2450 Grand Avenue (lower level of Crown Center). Tickets are \$5.

PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

Movement for the Actor: Toward a Tao for Actors

Robert W. Dillon Jr., Southeast Missouri State University
An effort to correct some of the myth and misunderstanding regarding the use of Zen techniques for theatre through practical and integrated breathing and movement exercises for actors, directors, and teachers. (Continued during Session 9.)

Session 11 — 3:15-4:30 p.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

Female Empowerment

Chair: Susan Gronbeck-Tedesco, University of Kansas

Mary Cutler, Bowling Green State University

The Empowering of Sally Talley and Julia Augustine: Feminist Analysis of Talley's Folly and Wedding Band

Jack Watson, University of Oregon

Annette McGregory, Purdue University

To Help Rule the World:

Women and Power in the Plays of Margaret Cavendish

Sheila Stowell, University of British Columbia

Realism, Power, and Feminist Playmaking: The Case of Elizabeth Baker's Chains

DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

Workshop: The Psychology of Directing and the Actor's Use of Self: Physical, Emotional, and Spiritual

Workshop leader: Tom Whitaker, University of Texas-Austin

PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

Movement for the Actor: Toward a Tao for Actors

(continues from Session 8).

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

Session 12 — 7:30-8:45 a.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

Empowering the Script

Chair: Bob Findlay, University of Kansas

Denise Walen, University of Minnesota

Female Power and Powerlessness: An All Female Production of Aphra Behn's The Rover

Charles A. Schultz, Northwestern University

Prometheus "Unbound" Revisited

Sarah Becker, University of Kansas

Cloud Nine

University of Kansas

Department of Theatre and Film

Glenn Q. Pierce, President, MATC

356 Murphy Hall

Lawrence, KS 66045



Jed Davis
2602 Louisiana
Lawrence KS 66046

Session 13 — 9:00-10:15 a.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

Power Trips: Playwright, Performer, Critics

Chair: Ron Willis, University of Kansas

Christopher N. Jones, Northern Illinois University

The Tyranny of the Box-Office:

Radical Agendas and the Commercial Theatre

Tobin Nellhaus, Northwestern University

Self-Possessed Jonson: Knowledge, Will, Ownership, Power

Terry G. Byars, Louisiana State University

Power and Madness: Jimmy Swaggart as the Iconic Rex

DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

The Psychology of Adapting to Special Situations

Chair: Jim Severs, Northeast Missouri State University

Richard L. Poole, Briar Cliff College

The Medicine Show's Director/Actor Response:

The Recreation of a Popular Past

Jeanne Klein, University of Kansas

Getting into the Head of the Children's Theatre Actor

Andre Sedriks, Wayne State College

A Journey to Riga:

Latvian Actors, American Methods, Surprising Results

Session 14 — 10:30-11:45 a.m.

THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

The Culture of Constraint

Chair: John Gronbeck-Tedesco, University of Kansas

Paul Siemers, University of Minnesota

Theatre Constraint: Culture and Sexuality in Select Plays of David Hare, Stephen Poliakoff and Snoo Wilson

Richard P. Benoit, Kent State University

The Fluid Dialectic of Hegemony

Shannon Jackson, Northwestern University

The Performance of Power in Beckett's Catastrophe

DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

The Psychology of Directing in Professional Theatre

Chair: Claude File, Brenau College

Panelists: Thomas Atkins, University of New Orleans

Phillip Karnell, University of New Orleans

Claude File, Brenau College

CHILDREN'S THEATRE/CREATIVE DRAMATICS

Dr. King - a performance piece for use in the classroom performed by Jacque Gafford, Theater for Young America, Kansas City, Kansas

PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

The Creative Idea

Judith Zivanovic, Kansas State University

Exercises to help develop the imagination of student playwrights (and actors and designers).

12:00-12:30 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

12:30-1:45 SUNDAY BANQUET

Guest Speaker: Gigi Gibson Bolt

The State of Theatre Art in New York: Not-for-Profit Projects and Prospects.

2:15 (approx.) BUSINESS MEETING

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. Postage

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Lawrence, Kansas

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